

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
 AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE
 POULTRY PROGRAMS, MARKET NEWS BRANCH
 60 FORSYTH STREET, SW SUITE 6M80
 ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303

OFFICE: 404-562-5850 FAX: 404-562-5875 JOHNNY FREEMAN: 404-562-5870
 INTERNET: <http://www.ams.usda.gov/marketnews.htm> RECORDING: 404-562-5856

February 24, 2006

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION
 FOR WEEK ENDING 25-Feb-06 (THOUSAND HEAD)

	CURRENT WEEK 02/25/06	PREVIOUS WEEK 02/18/06
Broiler/fryer	161,783	166,223
Light hens	1,061	1,058
Heavy hens	1,434	1,328

U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN CANADA

	WEEK ENDING 18-Feb-06 (THOUSAND HEAD)		
	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL
Head	361	0	361
Head sltr Comparisons			
Last Week	313	0	313
Same week yr ago	337	0	337
To-date/2006	1,909	7	1,916
To-date/2005	2,232	4	2,236

SOURCE: AGRICULTURE CANADA, POULTRY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

Total U. S. fowl slaughter in the U. S. and Canada

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL
Head	1,390	1,294	2684
Head sltr Comparisons			
Last Week	1,582	1,349	2,931
Same week yr ago	1,614	1,161	2,775
To-date/2006	11,297	9,600	20,897
To-date/2005	11,989	8,678	20,667

LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION
 WEEK ENDING 18-FEBRUARY-06 (THOUSAND HEAD)

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
Head	162,394	1,029	1,294	2,323
Avg Wt	5.38	3.74	7.93	6.07
Head sltr comparisons				
Last week	164,473	1,269	1,349	2,618
Same wk yr ago	156,653	1,277	1,161	2,438
Avg Wt	5.16	3.23	7.79	5.40
To-date/2006	1,124,957	9,388	9,593	18,981
To-date/2005	1,094,548	9,757	8,674	18,431

A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 164.0 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period was 164.3 million head, or 0.3 million more than estimated available.

YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION,
CLASSIFIED BY LIVE WEIGHT, WEEK ENDING 11-Feb-06

	(A) FAST FOOD/FOOD SERVICE 4.20 LBS & DOWN	(B) RETAIL 4.21-5.25 LBS	(C) DEBONING 5.26 LBS & UP
	-----THOUSANDS-----		
Head	29,284	17,278	60,670
Avg Weight	3.81	4.75	6.37
% of total /1	27%	16%	57%
Last week	26,372	19,025	55,126
Avg Weight	3.79	4.73	6.49
% of total /1	26%	19%	55%
Same week, yr ago /2	24,705	22,136	46,515
Avg Weight	3.65	4.80	6.40
% of total /1	26%	24%	50%
To date/2006	160,965	101,574	325,988
To date/2005	150,770	125,445	282,717

/1 MAY NOT TOTAL TO 100% DUE TO ROUNDING

/2 COMPARABLE WEEK

- (A) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the fast food and food service industries. May also include Cornish hens.
- (B) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the retail industry.
- (C) This weight class generally denotes chickens used in further processing. May also include heavy roasters sold in retail channels.

LIVE TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED WEEK ENDING 18-FEB-06
(THOUSAND HEAD)

	YOUNG (B)		YOUNG	OLD	
	HENS	TOMS	BREEDERS	BREEDERS	TOTAL
Head	1,417	2,546	9	1	3,973
Avg Wt	17.52	38.87	27.67	49.17	31.23
Head sltr comparisons					
Last week	1,777	2,429	14	5	4,225
Same wk yr ago	1,427	2,489	38	7	3,961
Avg Wt	15.94	38.46	25.27	34.08	28.02
To-date/2006	10,965	17,196	128	30	28,319
To-date/2005	10,760	17,632	210	32	28,634

SOURCE: USDA/AMS POULTRY PROGRAMS, MARKET NEWS BRANCH.
FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL (404) 562-5850.